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Message Text

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ORIGIN EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03
NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06
AID-05 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 TRSE-00 XMB-02 OPIC-03
LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01 IGA-02 IO-13 /100 R

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TO AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, CY, US

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH CYPRIOT PARLIAMENTARIANS

1. CYPRIOT HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES MEMBERS ALEXIS GALANOS AND ALEKOS MIKHAILIDES, IN THE U.S. TO ATTEND BUSINESS CONFERENCE IN NEW YORK SPONSORED BY AMERICAN HELLENIC INSTITUTE CALLED ON DEPT. OFFICER (EUR) FRIDAY MARCH 11. VISITORS WERE ACCOMPANIED BY CYPRIOT AMBASSADOR DIMITRIOU.

2. MIKHAILIDES AND GALANOS MADE STRONG PLEA, ALONG USUAL LINES, FOR CONTINUED U.S. PRESSURE ON TURKS AND CONTINUED U.S. AID TO CYPRUS. THEY CAUTIONED REGARDING TOO MUCH OPTIMISM RE PROSPECT FOR SETTLEMENT, SAYING MAKARIOS HAD GONE FAR OUT ON LIMB TO MEET TURKS HALF WAY. IF TURKS CONTINUE TO STALL AS ANTICIPATED DURING UPCOMING INTER-COMMUNAL ROUND,PARLIAMENTARIANS FEARED OUTSIDE PRESSURES ON
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CYPRUS MIGHT MOUNT FOR ADDITIONAL, UNWARRANTED CONCESSIONS. THEY ALSO LAID HEAVY EMPHASIS ON GREEK CYPRIOT NEED FOR FREEDOM OF MOVEMENT AND RESETTLEMENT IN WHATEVER FORM OF STATE MIGHT EMERGE FROM SETTLEMENT.

3. DEPARTMENT OFFICER INDICATED WE WERE AWARE OF DIFFI-

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CULTIES WHICH MIGHT ARISE IN COURSE OF RENEWED NEGOTIATIONS BUT FELT ENCOURAGED BY POSITIVE SIGNALS GIVEN BY BOTH SIDES DURING CLIFFORD MISSION. HE SAID WE INTEND TO REMAIN ACTIVE IN PERIOD PRECEDING RENEWED TALKS AND TO DO EVERYTHING WE CAN TO SUPPORT UNSYG AND TO INSURE NEW MOMENTUM. IN REPLY TO GALANOS' ASSERTION THAT USG SHOULD MAINTAIN AN ARMS EMBARGO AGAINST TURKEY, DEPT. OFFICER SAID THIS IS AMONG QUESTIONS NOW BEING CONSIDERED. WE WERE BEGINNING TO WONDOER WHETHER SUCH RESTRICTION WAS NOT COUNTERPRODUCTIVE IN ITS HARMFUL EFFECT ON TURKEY'S MILITARY CONTRIBUTION TO NATO. CONSEQUENTLY THERE WAS A POSSIBILITY THAT, AS HAD BEEN DONE LAST YEAR, WE WOULD PERMIT TURKEY TO BUY AN UNDRAMATIC AMOUNT OF MILITARY EQUIPMENT. GALANOS AND MIKAHILIDES BOTH REACTED WITH PREDICTABLE NEGATIVISM TO THE IDEA, BUT DIMITRIOU NOTED THAT EMBARGO HAD ALREADY BEEN RELAXED AND THAT SALES WERE NOT NECESSARILY THE "MILITARY AID" THAT THE VISITORS UNDERSTOOD IT TO BE.

4. REGARDING CONTINUED U.S. AID DEPTOFF SAID WE HAD GIVEN CAREFUL STUDY TO GOC MEMO PRESENTED TO US IN JANUARY, CONTINUE TO FEEL THAT BECAUSE OF STRENGTH OF CYPRIOT ECONOMY, NO PERSUASIVE CASE COULD BE MADE FOR CONTINUED U.S. AID ON BASIS BALANCE OF PAYMENTS OR REFUGEE RELIEF NEEDS. HOWEVER, WE ARE STILL LOOKING AT THE SITUATION AND THEREFORE ARE NOT TOTALLY NEGATIVE.
VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
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